



## CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

### New Britain Board of Education Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting

September 19, 2022 – 7:00 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

#### Call to Order and Opening

Mr. Anthony Cane, Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM.

#### Board Members Present

Mr. Anthony Cane\*, Ms. Monica Dawkins\*, Mr. Matthew Marino\*, Ms. Annie Parker\*, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly\*, Ms. Tina Santana#

*\*Committee member*

*#Attended remotely*

#### CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Ann Alfano, Ms. Amy Anderson, Ms. Lara Bohlke, Ms. Holly Catrino, Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Dr. Anthony Gasper, Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez, Ms. Maryellen Manning, Mr. Jeff Prokop, Ms. Kristin Salerni, Dr. Nicole Sanders

#### Curriculum Consent Items

##### **Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Pathful Explore Site License Renewal (\$16,447.50)**

Submitted by Ms. Lara Bohlke | Reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on September 12, 2022 | Funding Source: Local and Perkins Grant Academics-Licenses and Fees 101096110001-55302 (\$9,068.50) and Perkins Grant 20289691000-57346 (\$7,409.00)

Per Board Policy 3324, the bid procedure was waived for the following reason: Textbook purchases or other curricular materials used in place of traditional textbooks. This is the renewal of a platform that is entrenched in our SSP curriculum at the middle schools and in Career Connections and post-secondary planning at the high school levels at both Satellite and NBHS.

In partnership with family and community, the Consolidated School District of New Britain works to provide the best personalized and comprehensive whole-child education so our students will be prepared for, and positively contribute to, a profoundly different future.

Pathful Explore (formerly Virtual Job Shadow) is a K-12 exploration and planning platform that prepares students for college and/or career. With a combination of interactive tools, assessments, and real-world exploration, students can discover diverse career pathways and chart their individualized path.

Pathful Explore provides a combination of interactive tools, assessments, and real-world exploration videos to empower students so they can explore diverse career pathways.

Pathful Explore helps schools & districts support students with:

- Students' Career Profiles and Individualized Graduation Plans
- College & career research based on up-to-date data
- Workplace preparation, including resume and cover letter building
- Virtual job shadowing opportunities
- Internships, jobs, and work-based learning search

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-Financial aid/scholarship search and e-Transcript transfer

Our work at middle school, for example, is aligned to state mandates around the establishment of the Student Success Plan, a state mandate at the 6-12 level.

Suggested lessons incorporate the three CORE Elements of SSP:

1. Academic Development
2. Career Development
3. SEL Development

Lessons also attend to the elements of the Profile of a Graduate:

- Empathy & Cross-Cultural Understanding,
- Critical & Creative Problem Solving,
- Initiative & Perseverance,
- Analyze & Construct Arguments Based on Evidence,
- Meaningful & Purposeful Communication

The scope and sequence for middle school Virtual Job shadow is linked below.

The total cost of this purchase is \$16,447.50.

It will be paid through the Academics-Licenses and Fees 101096110001 55302 (\$9068.50) and Perkins Grant 20289691000 57346 (\$7409.00)

The total is \$16447.50 and the funding source is Local and Perkins Grant Academics-Licenses and Fees 101096110001 55302 (\$9068.50) and Perkins Grant 20289691000 57346 (\$7409.00).

***Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting in October. Motion carried unanimously.***

## New Business

### Review and Approve Minutes from Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting June 27, 2022

There were no recommended changes to the minutes from the Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting on June 27, 2022.

***Mr. Cane motioned to approve the minutes from the Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting on June 27, 2022 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.***

### Facilities Update

Presented by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez

Chief Operations Officer Rebecca Gonzalez provided committee members with updates regarding the following projects in the district:

- **NBHS ADA Project**
  - Project 75-80% completed
  - Some outstanding millwork, teacher furniture, and science classroom furniture
  - All electrical work completed
  - Waiting on some signage
  - End of Fall should mark final completion of project
- **Security Camera Installation**
  - 100% of cameras at Slade are up and running
  - Cameras are being installed at Pulaski this week

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- **Access Control Project**
  - High school hardware installation is complete
  - Kiosks are 90-95% complete
  - John Downey warehouse is in progress and will be complete as of this week
- **Slade Gymnasium Floor**
  - Insurance carrier denied our claim - Damage occurred in January and claim was filed in May
  - Projected late October/early November installation
- **Chamberlain School Construction**
  - Project is 75% completed
  - Move-in anticipated for the Spring
- **Smalley/Gaffney Close-outs**
  - OSCG&R has requested more information, bid documents, and invoices
- **Slade and Pulaski Roof Projects**
  - Slade has been prioritized since it houses MIS and Central Registration
  - Would like to upgrade HVAC infrastructure simultaneously
  - Do not have the means to do both roof projects at this time
- **School Security Assessment**
  - Reached out to several companies for gain information to complete assessment of our infrastructure, program, policies, and practices

## **IT Update**

Presented by Mr. Jeff Prokop

Chief Information Officer Jeff Prokop provided an update regarding the status of the Projector Replacement Project. Installation will be completed at Vance this week which will leave Slade as the last school. Work is also being done to increase bandwidth at schools to 10 Gigabits. Approximately 800 Chromebooks have been distributed and four hundred parents have purchased insurance for the devices so far this year.

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## **Discuss Available Funding/Reimbursement for Facilities Projects**

Submitted by Dr. Anthony Gasper

Superintendent Gasper and Director of City Support Services Paul Salina explained that the legislation regarding the Chamberlain renovation was amended to include \$25 million for the construction of preschool facilities. Mr. Salina is recommending that the Board agree to contact the state to have the \$25 million removed from the Chamberlain Project and have it as a stand-alone project. Superintendent Gasper added that he believes that the Board needs to decide on their educational “vision” and long-term programming with regard to school sites and facilities.

***The Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee recommended taking next steps to get the legislation updated, apply for necessary grants and funding, and meet to discuss facilities planning and vision.***

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**Discuss Potential Addition of Family Resource Center to Educational Specifications for Holmes School**

Submitted by Dr. Anthony Gasper

Superintendent Gasper brought forward discussion of the potential addition of a Family Resource Center to the Educational Specifications for Holmes School.

*The Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee recommended that Chief Operations Officer Rebecca Gonzalez work with architect Kaestle Boos Associates to amend the Educational Specifications for Holmes School to include a Family Resource Center. Revised Educational Specifications will then be brought to the full Board in October for consideration and approval.*

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**Discuss Contract Extension with Specialty Transportation**

Submitted by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez and Ms. Ann Alfano

The District has had discussions with our Transportation Vendors on the possibility on extending our current contract(s) if their proposed pricing is attractive.

The District is in year 5 of 5 with our transportation contracts with First Student (Regular Transportation) and Specialty Transportation (Special Education Transportation) and will be going out to bid.

We asked our vendors regarding extending our contracts for an additional two years. Specialty Transportation has proposed the following:

- 0% for 2023-2024
- 3% for 2024-2025

In addition, Specialty has proposed if the District is interested in extending additional years (can be no more than a five-year contract extension), 3% increase annually for years 2025- 2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028. With an extension one area that may need to be negotiated and agreed upon by the District and Specialty is an acceptable age of the fleet.

If the Board is interested in extending, we will have Shipman work with District and Specialty for contract extension language for the Board consideration and approval.

**The Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee recommended that a contract extension with Specialty Transportation be brought to the full Board for consideration and approval prior to the end of the 2022-2023 School Year.**

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**Personnel: Approve Contract between New Britain School District and Connecticut State Department of Education Regarding 2022-23 Educators Rising Connecticut Program (\$3,500.00)**

Submitted by Dr. Nicole Sanders | Funding Source: Talent Office: Recruitment and Retention 10109412700-53350

Educator Rising is a "Grow Your Own" program whose mission is to provide a pathway for diversifying the educator workforce. CSDNB high school students engage in pre-college learning experiences related to the teaching profession.

Participation in the EdRising program allows the district to invest in middle and high school students who will become future teachers. Our goal of cultivating aspirant teacher through EdRising program is to increase the percentage of BIPOC teachers recruited and retained in the district. The annual EdRising contract with PDK, the sole contractor, provides the researched based curriculum materials, clinical materials and implementation resources that can be digitally accessed by the EdRising teacher leader. The curriculum enables prospective teachers to gain critical foundational knowledge and skills about the teaching professions.

The total is \$3,500 and the funding source is Talent Office: Recruitment and Retention 10109412700 (53350).

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**Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting in October. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Finance: Approve Purchase Order for Curriculum Renewal and Professional Learning Project by EdAdvance (\$1,447,159.52)**

Submitted by Ms. Kristina DeNegre | Funding Source: Commissioner's Network Grants (Slade, Pulaski & Smalley) and SIG Grants (Slade, Pulaski, Smalley, Chamberlain & Northend) Pending

We are entering Year 3 of a three-year contract with Ed Advance to continue our work around curriculum writing/implementation and coaching. The scope of work for the 22-23 school year includes the following:

- Ed Advance coaches at Slade and Pulaski conducted the Middle School August PD curriculum sessions including unpacking Unit 1 for Grades 6-8 Social Studies with teachers.
  - Ed Advance Coaches will continue this work with all (6-8) Social Studies Teachers throughout the 22-23 school year and roll out the remaining SS Units.
  - Middle School Math Support: Planning facilitation, Coaching, Curriculum Support will continue as follows:
    - \*\*Donna Busa (Slade) will continue her work as a coach at Slade MS focusing primarily on Math coaching and support of all 6-8 teachers
    - \*\*Robin Moore will support the Math implementation at Pulaski in a coaching role for .8 of her week (4 days). The other .2 (1 day a week) will be the continuation of the SS curriculum writing for K-5.
    - \*\*6-8 Classroom Visits - The Ed Advance Coaches at each of the CSDNB Middle Schools, the district coaches, building administrators, and the Department of Academics will conduct regular classroom visits.
    - \*\*Ed Advance coaches will conduct frequent and consistent classroom visits independently and address the needs of teachers in order to address instructional trends immediately.
  - An Ed Advance Coordinator (Robin Moore) will lead an introductory K-5 NBU for the SS complementary frameworks in the Spring of 2023 to all K-5 teachers.
  - All NBU at the Elementary level will be building-based with the exception of the Social Studies units overview (Overview Introduction - Spring of 2023 conducted by Robin Moore)
  - K-12 Curriculum Vetting and Curriculum Development/Revision Support - Abbe Waldron will continue her work to support all K-12 curriculum work including PE/Health (K-12), EL(K-12), CTE (6-12), STEAM (K-5), Fine Arts(K-12), 6-8 Social Studies (remaining units), and all HS work (9-12).
  - Ed Advance Project Directors and Coordinator(s) will conduct curriculum bootcamp with CSDNB Curriculum Coordinators, Coaches and other select staff to ensure they are able to continue with high quality curriculum writing, review and ongoing revision.
  - Creation of K-8 Social Studies Units --48 units will be written including the 6-8 units of study and the K-5 units that will be integrated into the existing ELA units of study.
- The work of the Ed Advance Team will result in the following evidence-based outcomes:
- By June of 2023 80% of Middle School Math classroom visits will show that MS Math teachers are effectively implementing Illustrative Math curriculum with fidelity
  - By June of 2023 100% of curriculum and curriculum frameworks will be completed for K-8 in all contracted areas - ELA, Math, and Social Studies
  - By June 2023 100% of Curriculum Coordinators and Department Chairs at NBHS will demonstrate their own capacity and report their increased confidence in being able to complete and revise curriculum
  - By June of 2023 80% of Middle School ELA and Social Studies classroom visits will show that MS ELA and Social Studies teachers are effectively implementing the new ELA and Social Studies curriculums with fidelity.
  - By June of 2023 all Bootcamp attendees will report that they feel comfortable continuing the curriculum creation, review and revision work for the district. Financial Information

The total is \$1,447,159.52 and the funding source is Commissioner's Network Grants (Slade, Pulaski & Smalley) and SIG Grants (Slade, Pulaski, Smalley, Chamberlain, & Northend) Pending.

**Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting in October. Motion carried unanimously.**

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**Personnel: Approve Bid Waiver for Coaching Sessions by Ms. Kathryn Serino, Ed.D. (Daily rate \$1,250.00 – Not to Exceed \$15,000.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Kristina DeNegre | Funding Source: ESSER Funding Staff Support SEL – Account 20689691001-53200

Bid waiver: A bid waiver is requested due to the relatively small size of this project, that it is short in timeline, and that the named consultant is known by the administration to have the proper experience, qualifications, and availability to support certain CSDNB principals. Goal: Using the cycle of inquiry framework, school leaders will work closely within a coaching support model in order to identify and improve practices and outcomes related to effective and respectful professional relationships and high quality teaching and learning. (Domain 1 and Domain 4 of the CT Leadership Rubric). On-going in person coaching sessions to refine problems of practice and theory of action statements and engage in continuous reflection in order to identify leadership feelings, thoughts, assumptions, decision-making and actions that enhance or detract from identified outcomes. School leaders will be encouraged to maintain personal informal journaling in order to capture their personal and professional journey and growth over time. The Leadership Coach will maintain on-going and as needed communication and support outside of the coaching sessions. Coaching meetings will occur 1-1.5 hours/2X per month.

The total is Daily rate \$1,250 not to exceed \$15,000 and the funding source is ESSER ESSER Funding Staff Support SEL - Account # 20689691000000153200.

*Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board’s Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting in October. Motion carried unanimously.*

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**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for Yearly Renewal for Google Workspace for Education Plus (\$34,272.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: Local MIS/IT Software Budget 101092110000-53510

This is the yearly renewal for Google Workspace for Education Plus. Licenses are purchased through a third-party reseller and not from Google Directly. Instead, Google works with the third-party vendor to deliver a renewal quote for these licenses.

The total is \$34,272 and the funding source is Local MIS/IT Software Budget 101092110000-53510.

*Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board’s Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting in October. Motion carried unanimously.*

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to adjourn at 7:10 PM, seconded by Ms. Parker. Motion carried unanimously.